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Info
RMR

FROM: BERLIN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 323, NOVEMBER 13, 8 PM

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SENT BONN 276 DEPARTMENT 323, REPEATED INFORMATION MOSCOW 83,
LONDON PARIS UNNUMBERED.

FROM TRIMBLE.

ACCOMPANIED BY BURNS AND MULLER I CALLED ON MAYORS BRANDT
AND AMREHN THIS MORNING. I SAID KHRUSHCHEV PRESUMABLY HAD SEVERAL
OBJECTIVES IN MIND IN MAKING STATEMENT RE GERMANY; RAISE STATURE
GDR, ENHANCE WORLD TENSION, PROBE ALLIED DETERMINATION
RE BERLIN, WEAKEN WESTERN COHESION, ETC. IN CIRCUMSTANCES
IT ESSENTIAL WEST SHOULD NOT BE ALARMED OR PERMIT ANY
WEAKENING ITS UNITY. OUR POWER POSTURE GREATER THAN THAT OF
SOVS AND LATTER AWARE THIS.

MAYOR BRANDT EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE FOR MY ASSURANCES.
HE ESPECIALLY PLEASSED SECRETARY'S NOV 7 AND PRESS OFFICER
WHITE'S NOV 11 STATEMENTS. HE ANALYZED SITUATION FROM TWO
POINTS OF VIEW: (1) AS FAR AS GDR CONCERNED, EAST GERMANS
HAVE IMPRESSION THEY WERE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND KHRUSHCHEV'S
MOVE. REPORTEDLY, SENIOR GDR OFFICIALS HAD CONFERRED WITH SOV
AMBASSADOR PERVUKIN AND WERE ASSURED OF SOV SUPPORT IN CAMPAIGN
AGAINST WEST BERLIN. EAST GERMAN INITIATIVE DESIGNED (A)
PROVOKE SHOCK IN ZONE TO REDUCE NUMBER OF REFUGEES BY
DRAMATIZING INSTABILITY BERLIN POSITION CASTING DOUBT ON
ABILITY OF REFUGEES ESCAPE VIA WEST BERLIN BECAUSE PROSPECT
COMMIES WOULD FORCE CESSATION COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS; (B) SHAKE
ECONOMIC STABILITY OF WEST BERLIN TO REDUCE INVESTMENTS AND
BRING ABOUT CANCELLATION INDUSTRY ORDERS; (CL) POSSIBLE BELIEF

THAT SED

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THAT SED VOTE MIGHT BE INCREASED BY CAPITALIZING ON DESIRE OF PEOPLE TO "REINSURE" THEMSELVES.

(2) AS FAR AS SOV MOTIVES CONCERNED BRANDT SAID KHRUSHCHEV PROBABLY WANTED DETERMINE WHETHER BERLIN WAS SOFT SPOT IN WESTERN FRONT AND MAY HAVE UNDERRATED STRENGTH AND PROMPTNESS WESTERN REACTION. BRANDT SAID YESTERDAY'S GROTEWOHL STATEMENT WAS SIGNIFICANT SINCE HE REFERRED TO KHRUSHCHEV "PROPOSAL" RATHER THAN "ANNOUNCEMENT." HE NEVERTHELESS FELT SITUATION RE ACCESS WESTERN POWERS WAS SERIOUS IN EVENT REPLACEMENT SOV CONTROL PERSONNEL AT AUTOBAHN BY EAST GERMANS IN WHICH CASE WESTERN POWERS PRESUMABLY HAVE TO ACCEPT GDR CONTROL OR EMBARK ON SELF-BLOCKADE UNLESS THEY WERE PREPARED USE FORCE WHICH BRANDT DOUBTED.

HE ALSO STATED THAT EAST GERMANS HAD CAPABILITY OF SEVERING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN TWO PARTS OF CITY BUT SUCH ACTION WOULD NOT SERIOUSLY INTERFERE WITH ECONOMIC LIFE WEST BERLIN AS LONG AS TRANSPORT GOODS CONTINUED. A MUCH GREATER DANGER WAS LIKELIHOOD EAST GERMANS WOULD START WITH MINOR STEPS NONE OF WHICH WOULD SEEM WORTH A STRONG REACTION BUT CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF WHICH WOULD BE STRANGULATION.

BRANDT THEN SUGGESTED (1) APPROACH BY THREE WESTERN POWERS IN MOSCOW AS OUTLINED BY AMREHN (OURTEL 269 TO BONN, 316 DEPT) AND (2) CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO ADVISABILITY OF SENDING SEVERAL AMERICANS OF NATIONAL STATURE TO BERLIN NOT UNDULY TO DRAMATIZE SITUATION BUT RATHER AS PROOF CONTINUING INTEREST U.S. GOVT AND PEOPLE IN BERLIN. IN RESPONSE TO MAY QUESTION WHOM BRANDT HAD IN MIND HE REPLIED LEADING REPRESENTATIVES BOTH PARTIES SUCH AS MESSRS. ROCKEFELLER AND STEVENSON.

I ASSURED BRANDT THAT HIS FIRST SUGGESTION HAD ALREADY BEEN FORWARDED TO DEPT AND THAT WE WOULD BRING SECOND ITS

ATTENTION.

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ATTENTION.

I OPENED MEETING WITH AMREHN WITH SAME REMARKS AS MADE TO BRANDT. AMREHN SAID HE ESPECIALLY GRATIFIED WITH U.S. STATEMENT WHICH HEADLINED BY WEST BERLIN PRESS TODAY THAT 600 PLANE'S READY FOR ANOTHER AIRLIFT; HE FELT THIS ALL THAT COULD BE ASKED BY WAY OF CLARIFICATION OUR POSITION TO POPULATION WEST BERLIN AND TO KREMLIN. AMREHN FELT ENTIRE EAST OFFENSIVE AGAINST BERLIN WELL PLANNED STRATEGY AND THAT MOTIVES INTERNAL POLITICS, SUCH AS KHRUSHCHEV'S DESIRE FORTIFY HIS POSITION PRIOR 21ST CP USSR CONGRESS, SECONDARY. HE EMPHASIZED KHRUSHCHEV HAD NOT SPOKEN OF "DECISIONS" AND THAT THEREFORE THERE WAS TIME TAKE STEPS AGAINST IMPLEMENTATION HIS THREATS.

AMREHN ALSO RAISED PROBLEM WEST RAIL AND ROAD ACCESS AND SAID THERE WAS NO INDICATION THAT SOVS MIGHT PROPOSE USING GDR PERSONNEL AS THEIR AGENTS AT CONTROL POINTS BUT THAT KHRUSHCHEV SPEECH POINTED TO DIRECT TRANSFER THESE FUNCTIONS TO GDR AS SOVEREIGN STATE. REMARKING THAT PREVIOUS GDR MEASURES SUCH AS IMPOSITION AUTOBAHN AND WATERWAY TOLLS SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN TOLERATED, AMREHN EMPHASIZED HE FELT ALLIES SHOULD ACCEPT NO RPT NO VOPO CONTROL OF TRAFFIC WEST BERLIN GARRISONS. DECISION MIGHT HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY ALLIES TO PROCEED WITHOUT SUBMITTING EAST GERMAN CONTROLS.

AMREHN THEN SUGGESTED TIME MIGHT BE RIPE CONSIDER NEW STOCKPILE DISCUSSIONS, AND RESUMPTION CONTACTS WITH BERLIN OFFICIALS ON THIS MATTER.

AMREHN INFORMED HIS SUGGESTION RE BERLIN CONFERENCE THREE AMBASSADORS CONSIDERED BUT IN VIEW ALREADY EXISTING PLANS MYSELF AND BRITISH AMBASSADOR COME TO BERLIN INDEPENDENTLY, IT FELT THAT SAME PURPOSE COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED INDIVIDUAL RATHAUS CALLS ON OUR PART. IF SHORTLY AFTER THIS THREE CHIEFS

OF MISSION

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OF MISSION WERE TO REVISIT BERLIN TOGETHER, PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT MIGHT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. AMREHN AGREED.

BRANDT SEEMED QUITE CALM AND COMPOSED AND WHILE AMREHN DISPLAYED SOME NERVOUSNESS IT WAS NOT AS PRONOUNCED AS WHEN BURNS SAW HIM TWO DAYS AGO.

BURNS

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